



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Eastern District of Wisconsin*

517 East Wisconsin Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53202

PRESS RELEASE

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**FIFTEEN DEFENDANTS CHARGED IN GANGSTER DISCIPLES
DRUG CONSPIRACY CASE IN RACINE**

United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic announced that yesterday, a federal grand jury in the Eastern District of Wisconsin returned an indictment charging fourteen defendants from Racine in a drug conspiracy case. The defendants, many of whom are alleged to be members or associates of the Gangster Disciples street gang, are charged with conspiracy to distribute controlled substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(b)(1)(B) and 846.

The defendants were identified as Charles Bonner (age: 24), Willneal Cheeks (age: 25), James Goree (age: 25), Alan Johnson (age: 26), Gerald Johnson (age: 31), Lorenzo Luckett (age: 28), Armand McCurty (age: 21), Zisirtike Mcmillan (age: 19), Greg Simmons (age: 21), James Snow (age: 28), Raymond Turner (age: 25) Joshua Williams (age: 25), Falandric Williams (age: 29), Luther Williams (age: 21), and Travis Williams (age: 26),

According to information provided in court today, the Gangster Disciples gang was formed in Racine in the 1990s. The gang became involved in drug sales in the midtown area of Racine. The gang territory encompassed roughly the area from State Street south to 16th Street, from Lake Michigan west to Memorial Drive. Gang members sold drugs outdoors and in houses throughout the area, and also sold drugs using cellular telephones. Gang members relied on each other to generate drug profits by excluding non-gang members from selling drugs in the area. Gang members attempted to exclude non-gang members from the area through the use of intimidation and or violence.

The indictment alleges that the defendants sold cocaine base, in the form of "crack cocaine" as well as powder cocaine and marijuana. When powder cocaine was sold, it was often "cooked" into crack cocaine form and resold. The defendants allegedly bought and sold the drugs in various quantities, including up to four and a half ounces at a time.

The defendants were charged based on a nine-month investigation. The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Greater Racine Gang Task Force (GRGTF), assisted by other federal and local law enforcement agencies, arrested six individuals today who are members of, or associates with, the Gangster Disciples street gang. The Task Force also executed six search warrants at various locations in Racine. Several of the defendants were already in custody.

Assisting the Greater Racine Gang Task Force in the investigation and today's arrests were: Racine Police Department, Racine County Sheriff's Department, Racine County Metro Drug Unit, Mount Pleasant Police Department, Sturtevant Police Department, Kenosha County Sheriff's Department, Caledonia Police Department, Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the U.S. Marshals Service, the Racine District Attorney's Office, and the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, Division of Probation and Parole.

According to United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic, "the combination of gangs, drugs and guns poses a significant danger to our local communities. Working in cooperation with federal, state and local law enforcement we will aggressively prosecute alleged gang members and other criminals who are involved in illegal drug trafficking." He also commended the actions of all law enforcement agencies that were involved in this lengthy investigation.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Erica O'Neil. If convicted, the defendants face between 5 and 40 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000 and 4 years to life on supervised release.

It should be noted that an indictment is merely the formal method of charging an individual and does not constitute inference of his or her guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, that the government establishes his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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